

**THE NEW US 31
HAMILTON COUNTY**

**The New US 31 Hamilton County
Community Advisory Committee Meeting
Westfield Public Works Department
Dec. 13, 2012
9 – 11 a.m.
Meeting Summary**

CAC Members	
Mike Dearing, Indy MPO	Brad Davis, Hamilton County
Monica Faurote, Village Farms	Neil VanTrees, City of Westfield
Bill Culpepper, SePRO	Melody Jones, City of Westfield
Sue Finkham, City of Carmel	Matt Hoffman, Carmel Fire Department
Bob Robey, Westfield Chamber of Commerce	Harry Nikides, City of Westfield
Dan LaReau, St. Vincent Hospital	Andy Cook, City of Westfield

Project/Design Team	
Steve Fleming – RW Armstrong	Jason Rowley – RW Armstrong
Kim Mills – Parsons Brinckerhoff	Duane McKinney – Parsons Brinckerhoff
Eryn Fletcher – FHWA	Chris Schultz – RW Armstrong

INDOT Team	
Gary Pence	Nathan Riggs
Chad Nierman	Brandye Hendrickson

Public Outreach Team	
Lisa Tellus – Borshoff	Whitney Pflanzner – Borshoff
Jill Hoffmann – Empower Results	Michelle Kearns – Empower Results

DATE/TIME: Dec. 13, 2012

LOCATION: Westfield Public Works Department, Large break room

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Committee Meeting #12

ATTENDEES: Representative Stakeholders

NOTES BY: US 31 Hamilton County Outreach Team

PURPOSE: To provide updated information regarding The New US 31 Hamilton County project to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) members. The project team will answer questions and receive feedback about the project from CAC members.

DISCUSSION: The New US 31 Hamilton County project team provided design and noise wall updates, discussed right of way and utility relocation status' and gave updates on ongoing/completed construction. Also, the team discussed the updated contract letting plan, upcoming construction plans and ongoing public outreach efforts.

ACTIONS: CAC members were encouraged to ask questions at the end of the presentation and to take project handouts (fact sheets, "Follow Our Progress" cards and a printed copy of the CAC presentation).

OVERVIEW: The twelfth Community Advisory Committee meeting was held on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012, at the Westfield Public Works Department. Eleven CAC members attended.

General information:

- Whitney Pflanzner, public outreach team member, opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. by welcoming the attendees. She then asked attendees/team members to introduce themselves. She informed the group of the agenda.

Design updates:

- Gary Pence, The New US 31 Hamilton County project manager, presented the design updates:
 - City of Carmel local road improvements
 - Currently, the City of Carmel is working on the Illinois Street extension, just south of 116th Street to 111th Street. When completed, this work will help with future maintenance of traffic for the US 31 project.
 - Final designs for interchanges at US 31/106th Street and US 31/116th Street
 - This summer, the decision was made between INDOT, the City of Carmel and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to construct roundabout interchanges at both the 106th and 116th Street interchanges. Throughout the design process, these two interchanges have been presented with two design options: diamond and roundabout.
 - There is also an addition of a roundabout at 116th and Pennsylvania streets.
 - SR 32 profile change and noise walls
 - The design of the interchange at US 31 and SR 32 was changed to a single point interchange (SPUI), and the profile of the interchange was

changed so that US 31 will now come up and over 181st Street and SR 32. This design change changes the noise profile in this area. Because of this, the team had to conduct new noise studies and determine if noise walls were warranted in this area. The team identified two locations in which a noise walls are warranted – near Westfield Middle School and North Glen Village Mobile Home Park. However, the property owners must approve the placement of noise walls. Currently, the team is working with the property owners' for their determination of whether or not they would like noise walls to be built.

Right of way and utility updates:

- Jason Rowley, from RW Armstrong is The New US 31 Hamilton County design manager. He presented right of way and utility updates for the corridor.
 - Right of way acquisition status:
 - Three right of way acquisition maps were shown, depicting the current status of acquisition throughout the entire corridor.
 - Jason explained that many of the affected properties have moved into appraising and buying.
 - The team's next task is to clear the area from 146th to 169th streets.
 - There are a total of 260 parcels affected by the US 31 project. Of those parcels, 131 are clear, 12 are secured, 23 are in condemnation and 71 are in appraising. (information as of 12/12/12)
 - Jason also displayed three corridor-wide graphics depicting the anticipated construction clear dates for each parcel. He explained that parcels in light blue are expected to be clear in January (hatched blue) or March (solid blue) of 2013. If a property is in yellow, is it expected to be clear in May (hatched yellow) or July (solid yellow) of 2013. Properties in orange are expected to be clear in October 2013 (hatched orange) or January 2014 (solid orange). Also, those properties in hatched green are expected to be clear in February 2014.
 - Utility relocations
 - This year, utilities were relocated between 146th Street to 169th Street.
 - One of the biggest accomplishments this year was that Vectren put in more than four miles of pipeline from Greyhound Pass to 181st Street. Jason displayed photos of Vectren's work. They built the pipeline in two directions – from 181st Street to the south, and Greyhound Pass to the north. They were supposed to meet in the middle, near 169th Street. However, due to a delay in land acquisition, Vectren will need to come back in the spring to make the final connection, and then they will be done in Westfield.
 - In 2013, Vectren plans to work in Carmel.
 - AT&T placed a large vault in the old Regions Bank area near Greyhound Pass. They've nearly completed work from 146th Street to 161th Street. The team expects them to complete work in spring 2013.
 - Construction updates
 - Jason displayed photos of the Westfield Driveway bridge (expected to be completed by INDOT in about one month), the causeway over Cool

Creek, the large size bridge beams and the completed US 31/146th Street interchange.

- The team plans to continue to use the original MSE formliner design throughout the entire corridor.
- In 2012, the team completed work at the SR 38 interchange, the 146th Street bridge over US 31 and the US 31/146th Street/Keystone Parkway interchange. Landscaping in these areas will occur in the spring.

– Moving forward

- Jason explained that plans to let the entire corridor in one contract have changed. Because contractor bids came in too high at the Nov. 15 letting, the team has decided to split the contract up into four moderately sized contracts in order to receive more competitive bids.
- On Dec. 19, the next contract is expected to let. This contract will include the area from 146th Street to 169th Street. This includes work on the 146th Street, 151st Street and 161st Street interchanges. This contract will not include the 169th Street bridge, as this signal will remain active for the time being. This contract will also include the 156th Street and Union Street underpasses. Work on this contract is expected to begin as early as January or February of 2013.
- In April, the final demolition contract will be let. It will cover all the local road improvements near SR 32, including the Westfield Park access road, Sun Park Drive, Blackburn Avenue, South Wheeler Road and East Street.
- Contractors have demolished about 40 buildings this year. There are approximately 35 to 40 more, which will be included in the April letting. Demos will occur from about April until June 2014. The April letting also includes staking and utility relocation.
- Contracts letting in 2013:
 - July 2013 letting will include: Work on US 31 from 96th Street to Range Line Road, US 31 road closure from 136th Street to Old Meridian Street, interchanges at I-465, 106th, 116th, 131st and 136th streets, and overpasses at 111th and 126th streets
 - August 2013 letting will include: Connection from 169th to 203rd streets, single point urban interchange at SR 32, a roundabout at 191st Street, an underpass at 169th Street, an underpass at 181st Street, and utility relocation/local road improvements in Westfield

– Construction sequencing

- Duane McKinney, from Parsons Brinckerhoff, explained the construction sequencing for the project. Duane reiterated the plans to group for the remaining corridor work to be broken into four contracts. However, the overall plan for construction sequencing remains the same.
- Duane displayed an illustration of work completed along the corridor in 2011 and 2012.
- He explained that next year, the team had hoped to complete more offline work at SR 32 and 191st Street; however, due to right of way acquisition and utility relocation timing, the work will be pushed back to 2014.
- In 2014, offline work will occur in the Carmel section of the corridor at 106th, 116th, 131st, Main Street and 136th.

- In 2015, more mainline US 31 construction is expected to occur. This work will include everything north of 169th Street. The team still expects the full closure of US 31 to occur in 2015. Offline work at the I-465 interchange will also take place in 2015.
 - The team expects the construction of the I-465 interchange to be completed in 2016. This still meets INDOT's goal of having US 31 open to freeway standards (no stoplights) from north of I-465 to SR 38.
- Construction phasing 2013
 - Work beginning in 2013:
 - Next year, the team plans to build the 151st Street/Greyhound Pass interchange, 161st Street interchange, mainline pavement US 31 from 146th Street to south of 169th Street.
 - Also, there will be work on East Street, Oakbrook Parkway and local road improvements at SR 32. Additionally, demolition, clearing and utility relocations will occur.
 - In spring, temporary widening will occur on mainline US 31. Nighttime closures will be necessary for this work, and the team hopes to maintain two lanes in each direction during the daytime hours (subject to change). A temporary cross-over will go in just north of the 146th Street bridge, and temporary widening will go in along both sides of northbound US 31 from 161st to 169th Street.
 - In April/May, the team expects to implement the first phase of cross over traffic. The southbound lanes will cross over to northbound US 31.
 - Temporary closures will be necessary in 2013. For example, 151st Street is expected to be closed west of US 31 for approximately 60 days (maximum). This closure will be west of Target, so there will always be access to Target from US 31.
 - A closure is also necessary on 161st Street. Contractors will be given 120 days (maximum) to close the ramps/access to 161st Street to build the overpass and the interchange/ramps. April 15 would be the first date the contractor could start this closure. The Farr Hills Drive extension needs to be in place before this closure can happen.
 - Once 151st Street is open, there will be a short-term closure of Greyhound Pass. Either 151st Street or Greyhound Pass will be open at all times. But, pavement work needs to be completed on Greyhound Pass on the west side of the roadway. This closure period will be up to 30 days (maximum).
 - Then, traffic will be shifted onto the newly built southbound lanes. There will no longer be access from US 31 at 156th Street and Union Street, as US 31 will go over these roads. In this phase, northbound US 31 will be crossed over to the southbound lanes with two lanes in each direction. The off-ramp to 151st Street will be active with a signal. Some of the collector-distributor roads on the east side will be open to traffic. The connectivity between Greyhound Pass and 151st Street will also be active. The signal at Greyhound Pass will remain in place.

- At the time of the cross over above, the team expects that the - 161st Street interchange/ramps will be fully accessible. Two lanes will be maintained in each direction on US 31.
 - Then, team expects that the contractor will need to close 151st Street for up to two weeks on the east side of the roadway (east of McDonald's). Again, there will always be access at Greyhound Pass.
 - Due to the long settlement period for some of the crossings at Union Street, Cool Creek and 156th Street, some bridges may take up to nine weeks to settle before pavement can be placed. In this case, the team anticipates that a winter layover condition may occur. This means the pavement may not go in until spring 2014. Due to this situation, the team expects to shift the cross-over conditions to allow for as much capacity as possible through the winter. A cross over will be in place north of Greyhound Pass and north of the fill area just north of 156th Street. This will allow for the interchange at 161st Street to be fully functioning.
 - While northbound US 31 is still crossed over to the southbound lanes, southbound US 31 will function as a free-flow movement. The signal at southbound US 31/Greyhound Pass will be removed, and everything will function in its final condition with the collector-distributor system from 146th Street to 151st Street. The slip ramp from 151st Street will be active. A signal will remain in place on northbound US 31 at Greyhound Pass.
- Public outreach updates
- Whitney reminded CAC members that enewsletter and text message updates are available for subscription. To sign up for the enewsletter, simply visit the “Enewsletter” page on the project website (www.us31hamiltoncounty.in.gov).
 - To sign up to receive text messages, text the word ‘ROADS’ to 411247.
 - The team is always willing to meet with any groups or organization to provide project information and answer questions.
 - A large business mailing will be sent out to businesses in the 106th and 116th street areas to inform them of the final roundabout design decision.
 - Real-time construction updates are available via the website, under the “Construction/Closure Information” tab.
 - A public open house is tentatively scheduled for late February 2013. Details about this meeting will be distributed via the website, enewsletter and text messaging program.

Q&A:

Q. Who do I talk to about scheduling a presentation for the Village Farms area?

A. We're happy to meet with any group. Please see us after the meeting to get something scheduled.

Q. When will Phase 1E start next year?

A. Phase 1E (when traffic crosses over to the southbound US 31 lanes) will likely occur in late summer 2013.

Q. By splitting the contracts up, rather than bidding it all together, what's your estimation on cost?

A. When evaluating the best options for the contract grouping, the biggest risk we found was cost of materials four years out. By keeping these contracts to one to two years each, we hope to eliminate a lot of that cost-associated risk. So far, we are still running significantly under the original construction budget. The team still anticipates completing the corridor project within the same timetable.